

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, NI (RYTTING, LORRY)

SUBJECT: U.S. PROFESSOR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 231539

1. WE SHARE DEPARTMENT'S AND RYTTING'S FRUSTRATION OVER PROLONGED DELAY IN VISA CLEARANCE AND ARE PURSUING ALL POSSIBLE AVENUES ON URGENT BASIS. MIN. INTERNAL AFFAIRS CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICER TOLD US OCTOBER 23 THAT QUOTE REGRET DELAY IN ISSUING RYTTING'S VISA. SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH ME, INCLUDING A UNIGERIA PROFESSOR ONLY THIS MORNING. THERE IS NOTHING ELSE YOU CAN DO TO FACILITATE THE VISA EXCEPT TO GIVE US (MINISTRY) MORE TIME. UNQUOTE. FYI - IMMIGRATION OFFICER APPEARED WELL AWARE RYTTING'S DILEMA AND WILLING TO HELP, BUT GAVE IMPRESSION HIS HANDS WERE TIED BECAUSE HIS OFFICE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ALL NECESSARY CLEARANCES FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

2. WE HAVE REPEATED REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM UNIGERIA AND AT THE SAME TIME ARE PROCEEDING THROUGH INFORMAL PERSONAL POLICE/IMMIGRATION CONTACTS TO SMOKE OUT PROBLEM AND SECURE CLEARANCE SOONEST. WILL REPORT OCTOBER 25 IF NOT BEFORE.

3. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT PROBLEM IS BASICALLY ONE OF SHEER BUREAUCRACTIC INEFFICIENCY. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF OPPOSITION TO FULBRIGHT PROGRAM AS SUCH OR RYTTING AS INDIVIDUAL. STARTING WITH AND OPERATING THROUGH UNIVERSITIES INVOLVED, WE WILL IN FUTURE SEEK TO GUIDE AND ENCOURAGE MORE
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TIMELY HANDLING OF FULBRIGHT PAPERWORK. IT WILL INEVITABLY BE

A CUMBERSOME TASK, BUT WE HOPE SOME IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE
EFFECTED.
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